

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 IO-14 SP-03

AID-20 NSC-07 RSC-01 CIEP-03 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08

OMB-01 CEA-02 FEA-02 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 /155 R

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USDOC/CAGNE:LJENSEN

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R 302056Z SEP 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY RABAT

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 215142

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MO, SS

SUBJECT: SPANISH SAHARA: GOM 1957 RESERVATIONS AND US
ECONOMIC POLICY ON SPANISH SAHARA

REF: A) RABAT 4539 (NOTAL); B) RABAT 4593;
C) RABAT 16 OF 1/3/72; D) RABAT 175 OF 1/12/72;
E) STATE 12038 OF 1/22/72

1. REF A REFERRED TO MOROCCAN RESERVATIONS ON SAHARA
EXPRESSED TO USG IN 1957 AND ASKED DEPT. FOR DETAILS.
DEPT. POUCHING INR STUDY AND MEMCONS RECORDING DEMARCHES
OF THEN UN DELEGATE AHMED LARAKI, WHICH STATED GOM'S
REFUSAL TO ACCEPT BOUNDARY OF SPANISH SOUTHERN ZONE,
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THE PRESENT BOUNDARY WITH SAHARA, AS DEFINITIVE SOUTHERN

BOUNDARY OF MOROCCO.

2. REFS A AND B REQUESTED BACKGROUND AND GUIDANCE ON US ECONOMIC POLICY TOWARDS SPANISH SAHARA. REF C REPORTED THEN MOROCCAN FONMIN FILALI'S DEMARCHE TO AMBASSADOR ROCKWELL ON DECEMBER 31, 1971, WHICH EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT SPANISH MIGHT BE LOOKING FOR US FIRMS TO PARTICIPATE IN MARKETING SAHARAN PHOSPHATES. REF D REQUESTED DEPT'S GUIDANCE ON REPORTS OF US FIRMS' INVOLVEMENT IN EXPLOITATION OF SAHARAN PHOSPHATES.

3. IN DEPTTEL 12038 OF JAN. 22, 1972 (REF E), DEPT. REPORTED IT UNAWARE OF ANY SPANISH APPROACHES TO US COMPANIES FOR PHOSPHATE MARKETING ASSISTANCE AT THAT TIME AND THAT THERE WAS NO PRIVATE US FINANCIAL INVESTMENT IN MINING SAHARAN PHOSPHATES. SITUATION IS SAME TODAY. REF E ALSO AUTHORIZED EMBASSY TO TELL GOM (AND ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT) THAT "IF ANY US COMPANIES SHOULD SEEK USG ADVICE REGARDING PARTICIPATION IN EXPLOITATION SAHARAN PHOSPHATES, WE WOULD ALERT THEM TO POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS WHICH COULD ARISE FROM INVESTMENT IN AREA WHOSE FUTURE STATUS HAS NOT YET BEEN DETERMINED. WE COULD NOT PREVENT SUCH PARTICIPATION, HOWEVER, IF COMPANY DECIDED TO GO AHEAD." THIS CONTINUES TO BE US POLICY TODAY.

4. ASSUME EMBASSY HAS REFTELS. IF NOT, PLEASE ADVISE AND DEPT. WILL POUCH COPIES. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEMARCHE, FOREIGN INVESTMENTS, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE215142
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JVMONTVILLE:PM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740276-0292
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974092/aaaaabbu.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) RABAT 4539 (NOTAL); B) RABAT 4593, ;
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUN 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <06 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SPANISH SAHARA: GOM 1957 RESERVATIONS AND US ECONOMIC POLICY ON SPANISH SAHARA
TAGS: PFOR, MO, SS
To: RABAT
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005